

County of Los Angeles

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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BRYCE YOKOMIZO
Director



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April 21, 2004

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: **REPORT ON CHILD CARE CENTERS IN EL MONTE
(BOARD ORDER # 5 - OCTOBER 8, 2003)**

On November 19, 2003, I informed you that we had entered into an agreement with Acacia Children's Montessori School to provide child care services for County employees at two DPSS sites, both located in the city of El Monte. The capacity for these child care centers is 45 for the El Monte Center, located at 3400 Aerojet Avenue, and 64 for the Telstar Center, located at 9300 Telstar.

While the El Monte Center has opened, it has been tough filling child care slots because of the cost. Many employees prefer to use relative-care which is more affordable. We have worked on our outreach efforts and this center has been able to increase its occupancy from 16 children to 34 children. The Telstar Center is still unopened, although it originally was scheduled to be opened in February 2004. This is because this center cannot open until the occupancy level increases at the first site.

My Department has engaged in multiple outreach efforts to increase the occupancy level at the El Monte Center. These include sending out flyers to DPSS employees, providing flyers to other County departments with offices in the general vicinity of the child care center site, and ensuring that the center put their name on the list with the local Resource and Referral/Alternative Payment Program (R&R/APP) agency to attract CalWORKs participants.

DPSS is also looking into the possibility of opening the child care centers to the public. However, the problem is that the cost would not be affordable for many families because their fee would have to include the cost of space and utilities since these costs cannot be subvented for non-DPSS employees. Therefore, we are exploring possible alternative funding sources to help offset these costs.

We will continue to promote our child care centers through outreach and marketing efforts. We will provide you with another status report in June 2004.

BY:va

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller

MAY 03 2004

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"